

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 1

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MESSAGE = #1022508

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~ CRITIC FOLLOW-UP NUMBER ONE TO BIG LOOK 32 CRITIC #1-70 DTG, 280811Z PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF UNEVALUATED AIRBORNE INTERCEPT AND PARTIALLY DECRYPTED NVAF AIR OPERATION MESSAGES INDICATE NVAF MIG-21'S REACTING FROM VINH AIRFIELD SHOT DOWN A U.S. AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY 0754. ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM THESE SAME COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ALSO INDICATES ONE OF THE MIG-21'S FAILED TO RETURN TO BASE. DISCREPANCIES IN REPORTED TIMES AND POSITIONS INDICATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT A SECOND U.S. AIRCRAFT WAS ENGAGED AND SHOT DOWN. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT REPORTS OF A SECOND DOWNED AIRCRAFT MAY BE IN REFERENCE TO THE MIG-21 WHICH DID NOT RETURN TO BASE. AIRBORNE INTERCEPT FROM ONE SOURCE (BIG LOOK) INDICATES A MIG-21 UNDER CONTROL OF THE VINH CONTROLLER LAUNCHED A MISSILE AT A \$TARGET\$ AT 0745 RPT 0745 AND REPORTED THE TARGET BURNING THIRTY SECONDS LATER. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM ANOTHER SOURCE (USN-467N- USS STERRET) INDICATES THAT TWO MIG-21 AIRCRAFT MADE TWO ATTACKS AGAINST A TARGET AT 0754 RPT 0754 AND REPORTED DESTRUCTION OF THE TARGET. ENCRYPTED NVAF AIR OPERATIONS MESSAGES AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME HAVE ONLY INDICATED ONE OF THE MIGS RECOVERING AT VINH AIRFIELD. THE MIG PILOT ALSO FAILED TO ANSWER CALLS FROM SEVERAL GROUND CONTROLLERS. COMMENTS, AVAILABLE COLLATERAL REPORTS CONFIRM THE LOSS OF ONE U.S. RESCUE HELICOPTER (JOLLY GREEN SAR) WHICH WAS OPERATING OVER NVN IN THE VICINITY OF 17-40N 105-50E AT 0754 WHICH CORRELATES TO THE SECOND REPORTED SHOOTDOWN. NO COLLATERAL INFORMATION IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE INDICATING THE LOSS OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT WHICH CAN BE CORRELATED TO THE EARLIER REPORTED ENGAGEMENT AT 0745. THIS REPORT IS BASED ON UNEVALUATED INFORMATION AND WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED UPON RECEIPT OF INTERCEPT FROM AIRBORNE COLLECTOR 400 HHHH

(DUPE IN DATA BASE)

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Approved for release by NSA on 06-10-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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